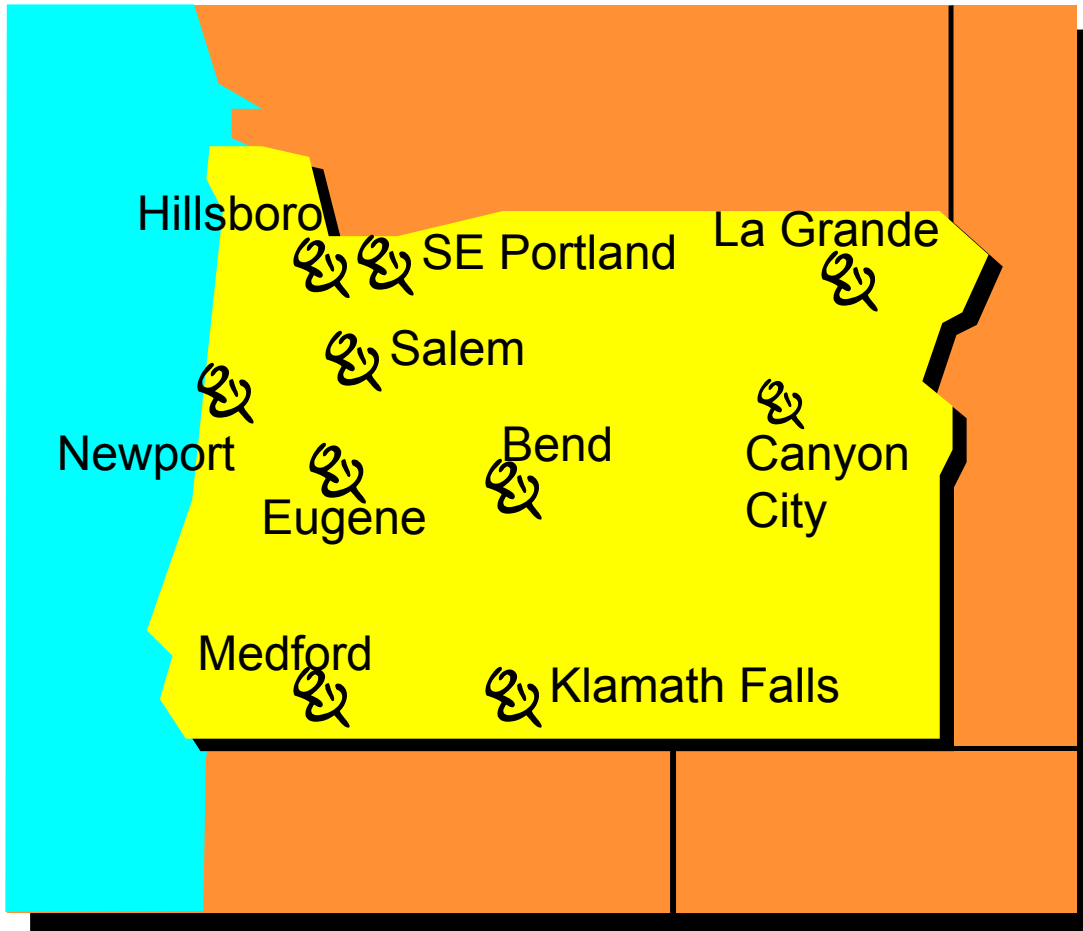

Oregon Health Policy Commission: Community Forums, Sept. 2004



Elizabeth Baxter
Oregon Health Policy and Research
October 21, 2004

Sites

Participants came from these counties:



- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| Benton | Lincoln |
| Clackamas | Malheur |
| Deschutes | Marion |
| Gilliam | Multnomah |
| Grant | Polk |
| Harney | Umatilla |
| Lane | Union |
| Klamath | Wallowa |
| Jackson | Washington |
| Josephine | Yamhill |

COST

ISSUES

- The 'System' (administrative cost, cost-shift, reimbursement constraints, 'defensive medicine')
- Services (drugs, technology)
- Changes in populations (aging, chronic conditions)

SOLUTIONS

- Control drug costs/advertising
- Regulate insurer rate increases
- Tort reform
- Fund/reimburse prevention and health education

ISSUES

- Workforce shortages
- Barriers to access (geographic, transportation, uninsurance, language, culture, immigration status)

SOLUTIONS

- Broaden scopes of practice
- Improve reimbursement
- Provide incentives for providers to practice in rural areas

Quality

ISSUES

- The 'System' (Accountability, inefficiencies, inconsistent definitions of quality, inadequate workforce to ensure quality)

SOLUTIONS

- Public information about quality measures
- Communication tools – technology and team
- Publicly available Information on cost
- Reduce administrative burdens
- Increase use of evidence-based practices

Health Status

ISSUES

- Education
- Nutrition
- Tobacco
- Individual responsibility

SOLUTIONS

- Schools to provide physical education, health education
- Eliminate or regulate vending machines / fast food in schools
- Reimbursement for prevention/health education

Next Steps

- Maintain communication with participants
- Find more opportunities for the public to inform the process

Contact information:

- If you have any specific comments or questions you can reach me at:

Liz Baxter 503-880-8892

elizabeth.baxter@state.or.us